

WRIGHT BROTHERS MASTER PILOT AWARD

November 30, 2004

The first Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award Ceremony was held on Tuesday, November 30, 2004 at the Westmark Fairbanks Hotel & Conference Center. The event was sponsored by the Northern Alaska Aviation Symposium and the Federal Aviation Administration, Fairbanks Flight Standards District Office, Safety Program.

Honored were Richard Wien, Merrill Wien, Dick McIntyre, Bud Helmericks, Jim Drew, George Clayton, Randy Acord and Syd Stealey. All were in attendance except Merrill Wien, who now lives in Washington State. The pilots were honored with a Certificate signed by the FAA Administrator, Marion Blakey. Matching lapel pins were presented to both the pilots and their spouses.

Featured speaker was Captain Brian Udell who presented his account of a high speed ejection from a US Fighter Aircraft at nearly 800 mph. This unbelievable story of survival, recovery and will power blended so well with many of the recipients own flying histories.

Nomination packets for future Master Pilot Nominees are available at the Fairbanks Flight Standards District Office (FSDO). Contact Ken A. Thomas or David Karalunas, at (907) 474-0276. Toll free within Alaska: 1-800-294-5119.

If you are unable to come into the office, click here to download forms, guidelines and see all award recipients throughout the nation.

http://www.faa.gov/safety/awards/wright_bros/